

REMARKS

Applicants' attorney thanks the Examiner for identifying certain deficiencies in the previous preliminary amendment, filed on January 3, 2002. Applicants' attorney further thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephonic interview on April 10, 2006 to discuss said deficiencies.

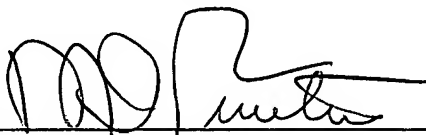
It is hoped that the present amendment to the claims will place the claims in better condition for substantive examination.

In case there is any remaining doubt as to the status of the claims, Applicants hereby state that pursuant to the present amendment, the claims that remain pending in the application are claims 1-12, all others having been canceled. Moreover, it is intended that the language in all earlier versions of claims 4, 5, 7, and 8 be superseded by the added language indicated by underlining in the attached claim listing.

If the Examiner should feel that the application is not yet in a condition for allowance and that a telephone interview would be useful, he is invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully,

Alessio Casati et al.

By: 

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